

Message Text

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ACTION SIL-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 COME-00
EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 DODE-00 PA-01 USIA-06
PRS-01 SP-02 /061 W
-----211109Z 126090 /17

P R 201605Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8656
INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, ICFTU, AR
SUBJECT: SPECIAL ICFTU MISSION TO ARGENTINA

REF: 76 STATE 312806

1. THE WEEKLY POLITICAL COLUMN OF "LA NACION" PRINTED WHAT PURPORTS TO BE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE LETTER WHICH AFL-CIO INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR ERNEST L. LEE SENT TO ONE OR MORE ARGENTINE TRADE UNION LEADERS, EVIDENTLY AIMED AT QUELCHING THE SPASM OF NEWS ACCOUNTS AND RUMORS CONCERNING THE PRESUMED PARTICIPATION OF AFL-CIO PRESIDENT GEORGE MEANY IN THE SPECIAL ICFTU MISSION TO ARGENTINA. WHILE THE COLUMNIST STRESSED THAT MR. MEANY WOULD NOT BE ACCOMPANYING THE ICFTU MISSION, HE ALSO REPORTED LEE'S END LINE HOLDING OUT THE POSSIBILITY THAT AFL-CIO REPRESENTATIVES MIGHT VISIT ARGENTINA SEPARATELY SOMETIME IN 1977, "ALTHOUGH NO DATE HAS BEEN SET YET."

2. ENZO FRISO, ICFTU STAFF MAN FOR EUROPE, THE AMERICAS AND ITSES, WHO WAS IN BUENOS AIRES YESTERDAY WITH ORIT SECRETARY
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GENERAL ETCHEVERRY (ON HIS FIRST TOUR OF LATIN AMERICA), FENDED OFF REPORTERS BY STATING THAT IF AFL-CIO DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN SPECIAL ICFTU MISSION THIS SHOULD NOT AUTOMATICALLY BE INTERPRETED THAT THERE NECESSARILY IS DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN THE AFL-CIO AND ICFTU OVER ARGENTINA.

3. FRISO, WHO WILL BE IN MEXICO NEXT WEEK FOR COMMITTEE

MEETING ON ORIT, TOLD LABATT HE WAS HOPING THAT ANDY MCLELLAN (WHOM HE HAS NEVER MET) PLANS TO ATTEND MEETING ALSO. HE WISHES TO ASCERTAIN FROM MCLELLAN WHETHER, IF THE ICFTU WERE TO EXTEND AN INVITATION TO THE AFL-CIO TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SPECIAL MISSION TO ARGENTINA, THE ICFTU SHOULD EXPECT TO RECEIVE THE SAME KIND OF BLAST WHICH THE AFL-CIO DELIVERED IN THE FORM OF A RECENT COMMUNIQUE ON SOUTH AFRICA. IF HE HAD SOME SIGN THAT SUCH AN INVITATION WOULD NOT BE SUMMARILY REJECTED OUT OF HAND AND THAT IT AT LEAST WOULD RECEIVE CONSIDERATION, FRISO SAID HE WOULD THEN RECOMMEND TO ICFTU SECRETARY GENERAL KERSTEN THAT THE INVITATION BE SENT. FRISO EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT KERSTEN WOULD ACCEPT HIS RECOMMENDATION IN THIS MATTER. THROUGHOUT REMAINDER OF THE CONVERSATION FRISO ALLEGED THAT HE AND SOME OTHERS IN ICFTU STAFF WERE ATTEMPTING TO WORK TOWARD RECONCILIATION BETWEEN AFL-CIO AND ICFTU. HE MENTIONED A STAFF PAPER HE WROTE ON EAST-WEST MATTERS OPPOSING DIALOGUE WITH THE COMMUNISTS. HE ALSO SAID THAT HIS VISIT TO CHILE HAD BEEN AN EYE-OPENER FOR HIM WITH RESPECT TO CUT AND THE ALLENDE REGIME, ALTHOUGH HE HAS NOT CHANGED HIS VIEW CONCERNING THE PINOCHET REGIME.

HILL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: ELAB, AR, US, ICFTU, AFL-CIO, (MEANY, GEORGE)
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